AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) In a device having a plurality of electronic program guide (EPG) loaders that are each configured to receive EPG data from one or more EPG sources, a method for interfacing the one or more EPG loaders with a database associated with the device, the method comprising:

~~receiving, at each of a plurality of EPG loaders, EPG data from a different EPG data source;~~

~~collecting the EPG data from the EPG loaders at a writer module;~~

~~upon determining at the writer module that there is a conflict in the EPG data received from at least two of the different EPG data sources, resolving the conflict according to conflict resolution criteria;~~

calling and executing a function of the writer module to store the EPG data in a database accessible by the device; ~~and~~

wherein execution of the function includes at least one of (1) creating a new categorization system for storing the EPG data, (2) adding a new category to the database, (3) adding a subcategory pair to the database, (4) mapping a category pair to a specific program, removes all EPG data from the database, (5) removing all schedule data from the database, (6) removes a specific audio subchannel from the database, (7) removing a specific categorization system from the database, (8) removes a specific category pair from the database, (9) removing a property from a weblink object in the database, (10) removing a specific sharing day from the database, (11) adding a unique sharing day to the database, or (12) linking a unique sharing day to a particular channel ~~executing the function by the writer module, thereby storing the EPG data in the database.~~

2. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein the function~~ adds a new audio subchannel format to the stored EPG data.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein the function~~ adds a new audio subchannel to a schedule entry in the stored EPG data.

~~4.   (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein the function creates a new categorization system for storing the EPG data.~~

~~5.   (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein the function adds at least one of a new category and subcategory pair to the database.~~

6. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 5, wherein the function maps a category pair to a specific program.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein the function~~ adds a new EPG channel to the database.

8. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein a function executed by the writer module removes all EPG data from the database.

9. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of another function of the writer module that</u>~~wherein a function executed by the writer module~~ removes all channel data from the database.

10.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein <u>further including</u> <u>execution of another function of the writer module that</u> ~~a function executed by the writer module~~ removes all program data from the database.

11.   (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein a function executed by the writer module removes all schedule data from the database.

12.   (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein a function executed by the writer module removes a specific audio subchannel from the database.

13.   (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein a function executed by the writer module removes a specific categorization system from the database.

14.   (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein a function executed by the writer module removes a specific category pair from the database.

15.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of</u> <u>another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein a function executed by the writer module~~ removes a specific program from the database.

16.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of</u> <u>another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein a function executed by the writer module~~ removes a property from a program object in the database.

17.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of</u> <u>another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein a function executed by the writer module~~ removes a property from a schedule entry in the database.

18.   (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein a function executed by the writer module removes a property from a weblink object in the database.

19.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of</u> <u>another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein a function executed by the writer module~~ removes a specific schedule entry from the database.

20.   (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein a function executed by the writer module removes a specific sharing day from the database.

21-22. (Cancelled)

23.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of</u> <u>another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein the function~~ sets a preferred result for a condition.

24.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of</u> <u>another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein the function~~ adds a new program to the database.

25.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of</u> <u>another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein the function~~ adds an extensible name-value property to a specific channel.

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26.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of</u> <u>another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein the function~~ adds an extensible name-value property to a specific program.

27.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of</u> <u>another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein the function~~ adds an extensible name-value property to a specific schedule entry.

~~28.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, further including execution of~~ <u>another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein the function~~ adds an extensible name-value property to a specific Weblink.

29.   (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein the function adds a new purchase string to a specific schedule entry.

30.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of</u> <u>another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein the function~~ maps a rating authority and rating to a specific program.

31.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of</u> <u>another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein a function executed by the writer module~~ removes schedule entries and associated program, rating, category, property and Weblink data from the database prior to a specific time.

32.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of</u> <u>another function of the writer module that</u> ~~wherein the function~~ adds a new schedule entry to the database.

33.   (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein the function adds a unique sharing day to the database.

34.   (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein the function links a unique sharing day to a particular channel.

35.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, further including execution of another function of the writer module that wherein the function indicates a current set of updates to the database is complete.

36.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, further including execution of another function of the writer module that wherein the function indicates the current set of updates to the EPG services storage or database is complete.

37.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, further including execution of another function of the writer module that wherein the function creates a relationship between a schedule entry and a video subchannel.

38.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, further including execution of another function of the writer module that wherein the function adds a Weblink to the database.

39.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, further including execution of another function of the writer module that wherein the function maps a Weblink to a specific channel.

40.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of another function of the writer module that</u> wherein the function maps a Weblink to a specific program.

41.   (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, <u>further including execution of another function of the writer module that</u> wherein the function maps a Weblink to a specific schedule entry.

42.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for implementing the method recited in claim 1.

43.   (Currently Amended) In a device having a plurality of electronic program guide (EPG) loaders that are each configured to receive EPG data from one or more EPG sources, a method for interfacing the one or more EPG loaders with a database associated with the device~~A method as recited in claim 1, further~~ the method comprising:

receiving, at each of a plurality of EPG loaders, EPG data from a different EPG data source;

collecting the EPG data from the EPG loaders at a writer module;

calling and executing a function of the writer module to store the EPG data in a database accessible by the device;

calling a second function of a control module operating at the device that accesses the database to retrieve the EPG data and transmits the EPG data to the one or more applications; and

executing the second function by the control module, wherein execution of the second function includes at least one of (1) disabling signaling of update events, (2) indicating that a new category has been added to the EPG data, (3) indicating that a new channel has been added to the EPG data, or (4) indicating that the EPG data within a particular time range has changed.

44.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, further including execution of another function of the control module that ~~wherein the function~~ retrieves a collection of names of known schemes for organizing programs by type.

45.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, further including execution of another function of the control module that ~~wherein the function~~ returns a time in the future at which available data ends.

46.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, _further including execution of_ _another function of the control module that_ ~~wherein the function~~ returns a furthest time in the future when a program starts.

47.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, _further including execution of_ _another function of the control module that_ ~~wherein the function~~ returns information to confirm if valid channel and guide listings exist in the database.

48.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, _further including execution of_ _another function of the control module that_ ~~wherein the function~~ returns information to indicate if channel data exists in the database.

49.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, _further including execution of_ _another function of the control module that_ ~~wherein the function~~ retrieves a collection of strings for names of known schemes for organizing content ratings.

50.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, _further including execution of_ _another function of the control module that_ ~~wherein the function~~ retrieves a channels collection object.

51.   (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 43, wherein the function disables signaling of update events.

52-53. (Cancelled)

54.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, further including execution of another function of the control module that wherein the function retrieves a collection of names of main categories within a categorization system for a given categorization system name.

55.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, further including execution of another function of the control module that wherein the function returns channels matching a search value.

56.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 50, further including execution of another function of the control module that wherein the function retrieves the Channels collection object for valid device channels with a particular channel number.

57.   (Cancelled)

58.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, further including execution of another function of the control module that wherein the function returns information indicating whether EPG data is found for a range.

59.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, further including execution of another function of the control module that wherein the function retrieves a program object representing a program shown on a specified channel at a specified time.

60.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, further including execution of another function of the control module that wherein the function retrieves an end time for a program.

61.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, further including execution of another function of the control module that wherein the function retrieves a length of a program shown.

62.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, further including execution of another function of the control module that wherein the function retrieves a rating object for a particular program.

63.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, further including execution of another function of the control module that wherein the function retrieves the start time for a particular program.

64.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, further including execution of another function of the control module that wherein the function retrieves a name of a program.

65.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, further including execution of another function of the control module that wherein the function indicates that an event should be fired when any aspect of a known categorization system of the database changes.

66.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 65, further including execution of another function of the control module that wherein the function indicates that the event should be fired when a new channel has been added to the database.

67.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, further including execution of another function of the control module that wherein the function returns updates occurring within a particular time range.

68.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, _further including execution of another function of the control module that_ ~~wherein the function~~ returns all schedule time slots matching query values.

69.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, _further including execution of another function of the control module that_ ~~wherein the function~~ returns programs that match query values.

70-71.   (Cancelled)

72.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, _further including execution of another function of the control module that_ ~~wherein the function~~ retrieves a collection object representing all time periods for programs whose title or description includes a particular case-insensitive string.

73.   (Cancelled)

74.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, _further including execution of another function of the control module that_ ~~wherein the function~~ retrieves a collection of subcategory names for a given category name.

75.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, wherein the _second_ function indicates that a new category has been added to the EPG data.

76.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, wherein the _second_ function indicates that a new channel has been added to the EPG data .

77.   (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 43, wherein the <u>second function</u> indicates that the EPG data within a particular time range has changed.

78.   (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for implementing the method recited in claim 43.

79.   (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, ~~wherein the conflict resolution criteria includes prioritizing each EPG loader with a different priority, and wherein resolving the conflict includes giving precedence to EPG data received from EPG loaders having higher priority~~<u>further including resolving a conflict between EPG data received from the EPG loaders.</u>

80.   (Cancelled).

81.   (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim <u>79</u>~~1~~, wherein resolving the conflict includes allowing a user to select a conflict resolution scheme.

82.   (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 81, wherein allowing the user to select a conflict resolution scheme includes allowing a user to assign a priority to the EPG loaders.

83.   (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim ~~1~~<u>79</u>, wherein resolving the conflict includes allowing an application to select a conflict resolution scheme.

84.   (New) In a device having a plurality of electronic program guide (EPG) loaders that are each configured to receive EPG data from one or more EPG sources, a method for interfacing the one or more EPG loaders with a database associated with the device, the method comprising:

receiving, at each of a plurality of EPG loaders, EPG data from a different EPG data source;

collecting the EPG data from the EPG loaders at a writer module;

upon determining at the writer module that there is a conflict in the EPG data received from at least two of the different EPG data sources, resolving the conflict according to conflict resolution criteria, wherein the conflict resolution criteria includes giving each EPG loader equal priorities, and wherein resolving the conflict includes giving precedence to EPG data that is received most recently;

calling a function of the writer module to store the EPG data in a database accessible by the device; and

executing the function by the writer module, thereby storing the EPG data in the database.

85.   (New) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for implementing the method recited in claim 84.